Listing of Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Additions are indicated by underlining and deletions are indicated by ~~strikethrough~~.

1.- 52. (Canceled)

53. (New) A variant of a parent human protein C polypeptide, the variant comprising a sequence which

(a) differs from the parent human protein C polypeptide sequence SEQ ID NO:4 in 1 to 15 amino acid residues, and

(b) comprises a substitution at K251, wherein the Lys residue at position 251 is substituted for an amino acid residue having a polar side chain or an amino acid residue having opposite charge to Lys,

wherein the variant in activated form exhibits an amidolytic activity.

54. (New) The variant of claim 53, wherein the variant in activated form exhibits at least 10% of the amidolytic activity of human APC when tested in the APC Amidolytic Assay.

55. (New) The variant of claim 53 in activated form.

56. (New) The variant of claim 53, wherein the amino acid residue having a polar side chain is selected from the group consisting of Gly, Ser, Thr, Cys, Tyr, Asn and Gln.

57. (New) The variant of claim 56, comprising the substitution K251N or K251Q.

58. (New) The variant of claim 53, wherein the amino acid residue having an opposite charge to Lys is selected from the group consisting of Asp and Glu.

59. (New) The variant of claim 58, comprising the substitution K251D.

60. (New) The variant of claim 53, wherein the variant in activated form exhibits about 5-75% of the anticoagulant activity of human APC when tested in the APC Clotting Assay.

61. (New) The variant of claim 53, wherein the variant in activated form exhibits an increased resistance towards inactivation by alpha-1-antitrypsin as compared to human APC.

62. (New) The variant of claim 61, wherein the variant in activated form has a residual activity of at least 20% when tested in the Alpha-1-Antitrypsin Inactivation Assay using an inhibitor concentration of 16.6 μM.

63. (New) The variant of claim 53, wherein the variant in activated form exhibits an increased resistance towards inactivation by human plasma as compared to human APC.

64. (New) The variant of claim 63, wherein the ratio between the *in vitro* half-life of the variant in activated form, and the *in vitro* half-life of human APC, is at least 1.25 when tested in the Human Plasma Inactivation Assay II.

65. (New) The variant of claim 53, wherein the variant in activated form has an increased functional *in vivo* half-life or an increased serum half-life as compared to human APC.

66. (New) The variant of claim 65, wherein the ratio between the functional *in vivo* half-life or the serum half-life of the variant in activated form, and the functional *in vivo* half-life or serum half-life of human APC, is at least 1.25.

67. (New) The variant of claim 53, wherein the sequence of the variant differs from the parent human protein C polypeptide sequence in 1 to 10 amino acid residues.

68. (New) The variant of claim 53, which is *in vivo* glycosylated.

69. (New) A composition comprising the variant of claim 53 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

70. (New) A method for preparing the variant of claim 53, the method comprising:

providing a culture comprising a host cell, the host cell comprising an expression vector comprising a nucleotide sequence which encodes the variant;

culturing the culture under conditions which permit expression of the variant; and

isolating the variant from the culture.

71. (New) The method of claim 70, further comprising:

incubating the variant under conditions sufficient to activate the variant, thereby preparing the variant in activated form.

72. (New) The method of claim 71, wherein the host cell is a mammalian host cell.